

We are entering a period of new vitality for the Church, a period in which adult Catholic laity will play a pivotal leadership role in fulfilling the Christian mission of evangelizing and transforming society. For adults to fulfill their roles in this new era of the Church, their faith formation must be lifelong, just as they must continue to learn to keep up in the changing world. (Par 29)
from OUR HEARTS WERE BURNING WITHIN US – A Pastoral Plan for Adult Faith Formation in the United States;
United States Catholic Conference of Bishops, 1999.

SACRED HEART PARISH FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADULTS

Scripture Study: *The Bible and the Virgin Mary*. This dynamic Bible study program is designed to help ordinary Catholics grow in their knowledge of the Scriptures while deepening their understanding of the riches of our faith. Distinctively Catholic, the 12 video sessions draw from both the Old and New Testaments. More than just an ordinary Bible study, it's biblical catechesis that beautifully explains the Catholic truths about Our Lady showing how she has been a part of God's plan to bring salvation to the world since the beginning of time. In addition to explanation of dogmas, answers to common objections, and demonstration of Mary's presence in the Old and New Testaments, this study discusses Church-approved Marian apparitions that play an important role in Catholic Tradition. It's sure to help Catholics and non-Catholics alike grow in an understanding and appreciation of the Mother of God. Two classes will meet for 90 minutes on Wednesday mornings at 9:30am **or** Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm in the Saints Room.

Adult Forum: This is a new opportunity for adults to gather for presentations and conversations about topics that matter, Sunday mornings, in between the morning Masses at 9:45am-10:45am. Participants will have the opportunity to suggest topics and presenters. The first four weeks are planned:

9/25/16: What do Catholics really mean by 'Respect Life' and why?

10/2/16: What do we mean by Catholic Devotions and why are they important?

10/9/16: Faithful Citizenship- Part One: How to prepare for the upcoming national election

10/16/16: Faithful Citizenship- Part Two: How to prepare for the upcoming national election

Join us in the parish hall as we apply our Catholic Faith to life in 2016.

Parent Circle: This is a new opportunity for parents to gather in the gym each week when there is scheduled Faith Formation for children and middle schoolers, 9:45-10:45am. We will provide coffee and donuts and conversation about the essential concepts that the children will be learning in class so that families can grow together in their faith. Instead of dropping your child off and heading to Starbucks, join us in the gym for parent enrichment.

RCIA: The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the process by which adults and older children are prepared to join the Catholic Church. Those who are exploring the idea of becoming Catholic are invited to Inquiry sessions on Monday nights at 7pm in the Saints Room. Those who make the commitment to formal preparation gather on Sundays after the 11am mass in the Saints Room.

ELECTRONIC FAITH FORMATION: We are happy to provide a wonderful on-line resource to all our parishioners this year to continue to grow in your knowledge and understanding of the Catholic Faith through www.FORMED.org. This website offers full length videos, Scripture studies, multi-part courses on Catholicism, audio presentations, full length books and more. In order to access FORMED, you must use Sacred Heart's parish code to log in: **2RQTQZ** (it's also listed on the parish website, under the Faith Formation tab!)

For details about any of these program, contact Carol Guenther at 425-450-3910;
cguenther@sacredheart.org.